

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-20 in the application. In the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 17-20 are allowed and that Claim 9 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To expedite issuance, the Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 with subject matter the Examiner has indicated is allowable and have canceled Claims 3 and 9-16 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Claims 1-2, 4-8 and 17-20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 4-6 have also been amended to provide the proper dependency.

I. Formal Comments and Remarks

The Examiner has objected to the Figures 1 and 2 for failing to include the legend "Prior Art." In response, the Applicants have amended Figures 1 and 2 to include the legend "Prior Art" as illustrated on the Replacement Sheet submitted herewith. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the drawings.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-8 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-8 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McNicol (US Patent Publication 2002/0131160) in view of Lu et al. (US Patent 6,832,051). As noted above, Claims 10-16 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to render the rejection of these Claims moot. Additionally, independent Claim 1 has been amended with allowable subject matter. As such, Claim 1 and pending dependent Claims 2 and 4-8 are in

condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §103(a) rejection of pending Claims 1-2 and 4-8 and allow issuance thereof.

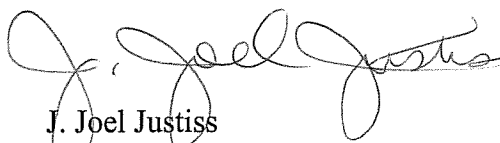
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-2, 4-8 and 17-20.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

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